



NOAA
FISHERIES

Pacific Islands
Fisheries
Science Center

American Samoa Archipelago Ecosystem Science: Socioeconomics Research

PIFSC Socioeconomics Program

American Samoa Archipelago Ecosystem Science Implementation Plan Workshop

May 27, 2015

PIFSC Socioeconomics Program

Economics Program

- Cost-Earnings studies and continuous data collections
- Develop key economic indicators for fisheries management
- Modeling and analysis of markets and consumer preferences
- Evaluation of economic implications and impacts of alternative management policies



PIFSC Socioeconomics Program

Human Dimensions Research Program

- Study the “people” side of fishing
- Social and cultural benefits and values associated with marine resources
- Better understanding of fishing communities and how affected by regulations and management



Recent PIFSC Socioeconomics Research

Economics Program

- Longline Cost-Earnings (2009)

Human Dimensions Research Program

- Culturally-significant fisheries: *Palolo*
- Traditional knowledge and historical fishing methods
- AS community profiles: 2009, 2013
- Institutional analysis of community-based marine resource management initiatives in AS

Current PIFSC Socioeconomics Research

Ongoing trip cost data collection

- **AS Longline** (2006 – present)
 - PIFSC Econ/Observer program
- **Creel surveys** (2009 – present)
 - PIFSC Econ/WPacFIN/DMWR

Boat and spear fisheries cost-earnings (2015)

American Samoa longline cost-earnings (*coming soon*)

Future Ideas

Determinants of fisher participation

- DATA: participant counts, fish/fuel prices, CPUE, etc.
- QUESTIONS: What are the drivers of participation within/across fisheries?
 - Role of fuel? Catch rates? Weather? Prices?



Future Ideas

Market Monitoring (commercial price data, imports)

- DATA: prices, quantities (by species), origin
- QUESTIONS: What is role of local/import fish in markets? How do imports affect prices for local species?



Future Ideas

Attitudes and perceptions for AS Longline

- DATA: Semi-structured interviews, survey methods.
- QUESTIONS: Issues facing the industry? Outlook for the future? Rights-based management alternatives?



Future Ideas (etc...)

- **Perceptions of MPAs**
 - Establishment/Effectiveness
- **Fishery development plans**
- **Improved public access to research and data**
 - Outreach brochures
 - Visualization tools
 - Web-based applications

Related Socioeconomics Research

NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP)

- Household survey on the Marine Environment, Pollution, and Village Adaptive Capacity (2014)
 - Vatia, Aunu'u, Faga'alu
- National Coral Reef Monitoring Program Socioeconomic Monitoring for US Coral Reef Jurisdictions
 - every 5-7 years into future

http://www.coris.noaa.gov/activities/projects/ncrmp_socio
- Coastal and Watershed Uses Mapping Data

http://www.coris.noaa.gov/activities/projects/as_watershed_map/

A scenic view of a tropical harbor with several sailboats docked at a wooden pier. In the background, there are lush green mountains under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The water is calm and blue.

For more information:

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